

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BELGRA 04394 060932Z

17

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 DRC-01 /076 W

----- 047434

O 060900Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 475

INFO USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 4394

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR YO IT MPOL

SUBJ: EXERCISE ALTANEA 74

REF: (A) USCINCEUR EC J3 15550 SEP 3 1974, 1720Z;
(B) STATE 188703

1. AFTER DUE CONSIDERATION WE MUST AGAIN TAKE STRONG
EXCEPTION TO THE RECOMMENDATION THAT EXERCISE ALTANEA 74
PROCEED AS PLANNED (PARA 3 REF A). THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS
SEEM PERTINENT:

A. THE FACT THAT THE TAGLIAMENTO RIVER IS A WELL-DEFINED
BOUNDARY WHICH "SHOULD NEGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF EXERCISE
PARTICIPANTS STRAYING OUTSIDE THE EXERCISE AREA TO THE
EAST" IS NOT CENTRAL TO THE ISSUE AT HAND. (WE FIND
DISQUIETING, HOWEVER, THAT IT IS DEEMED NECESSARY EVEN TO
MENTION SUCH A POSSIBILITY IN AN EXERCISE PLANNED SO CLOSE
TO THE BORDER OF A THIRD COUNTRY.)

B. WHAT IS CENTRAL IS THAT THE YUGOSLAVS LIKELY WILL
LEARN OF AN EXERCISE 20KM FROM THEIR BORDER, REGARDLESS
OF THE VISIBILITY LEVEL. THE QUESTION THEREFORE IS NOT
WHETHER IT "ATTRACTS ATTENTION" BUT WHETHER, KNOWING IT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BELGRA 04394 060932Z

IS THERE, THE YUGOSLAVS WILL FEEL THEY HAVE NO CHOICE BUT

TO REACT - TO THE DETRIMENT OF US INTERESTS. IT IS OUR JUDGMENT THEY WILL DO SO.

C. REF B DOES NO PROPOSE CANCELLATION OF THE EXERCISE, SO THIS POINT IS NOT MATERIAL.

2. FOR THE REASONS STATED ABOVE, WE STRONGLY DISAGREE WITH THE ITALIAN MOD CONTENTION THAT "THE EXERCISE AREA IS SUFFICIENTLY DISPLACED FROM THE SENSITIVE AREA IN QUESTION". FURTHER, WE QUESTION WHETHER PROBLEM OF ADDITIONAL "COORDINATION REQUIRED" IN TARGET SELECTION SHOULD TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER US FOREIGN POLICY INTERESTS.

3. THE EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT FINAL APPROVAL OF THIS EXERCISE BE WITHELD PENDING ITS ALTERATION TO MOVE THE TARGETS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE FROM THE EASTERN BOUNDARY. TOON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, MILITARY EXERCISES, ALTANEA 74, MILITARY PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BELGRA04394
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740247-0785
From: BELGRADE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740970/aaaachfk.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) USCINCEUR EC J3 15550 SEP 3 1974, , 1720Z;
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 MAY 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <04 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXERCISE ALTANEA 74
TAGS: PFOR, MPOL, YO, IT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005